

**Minutes of  
Gatwick Diamond Business Annual General Meeting  
Crowne Plaza Felbridge Hotel  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**Those Present:**

**Anya Ledwith, Chairman; David Montgomery, Director; John Peel, Director;  
Matthew Tyson, Treasurer  
The Executive Council and 43 members**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Lenny Walker, Airtech - Neil Gardner - ASB Law, Clive Findlay - Career Consult, Terry Porter - Carpentier Box, Lise Sorensen - CBC, Kaye Foong - Cheeky Boy, Carolyn Bentley - DIT, David Mellor - DMM, Diane Game - Hilton Hotel LGW, Peter Frake - IFSS, Matthew Wykes - M Wykes, Peter Clinker - Nestle, Dominic Tucker - Norwegian, Marianne Houlgate - OCS, Nick Blythe - Paella Fella, John Jory - RBBC, Simon Pringle - Red River, James Kelly - Storganise, Alan Novis - Sussex Promotions, Heather Wright - Take One, David Shore - Time 24, Denise Green - Vega, Nick Handley - WSMS

**2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the last AGM held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016 were approved and signed.

*Proposed: Brett North*

*Seconded: Merete Langler*

*Carried*

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were none

**4. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported on her first year and her involvement in strategic planning for the business.

She outlined the structure of the organisation, sub-groups, how decisions are made and the Governance as well as the role of the Team.

There has been a 17% increase in membership with a packed events programme and a successfully active membership

Gdb has worked in the Community through several schemes & the Challenge & Raffle raised just under £9000 for Charities

The Voice of Business has been loudly heard and we continue to represent the members' interests at every level

In closing, the chairman thanked the Team and the Executive Council for their support across the year.

*Proposed: Tom Crellin*

*Seconded: Mark Shearring*

*Carried*

**5. Treasurer's Report for year ending 31st March 2016**

The Treasurer was happy to report on a positive year resulting in a surplus due to an 8.5% increase in subscription income and a 25% increase in Other Income while a 2.3% reduction in costs had been achieved. This is especially commendable during a period of staff changes.

At the close of the Financial Year, whilst both Debtors & Creditors had risen, the company is in a stronger position with a 70% increase in Net Assets

The Budget for 2017/18 will continue to pursue a Surplus

*Proposed: Paul Roe*

*Seconded: David Montgomery Carried*

**6. Chief Executive's Report**

The Chief Executive reflected on a year of great change and thanked the Team for their dedication & work

Looking ahead, the ambition is to increase the number of effective networking opportunities and to create new events to bring together like minded businesses to discuss common issues.

gdb will continue to pursue opportunities to represent the business community

Three specific Headline Events will be delivered in 2017/18: Meet the Buyers, The Speakers Conference and the 10<sup>th</sup> Gatwick Diamond Business Awards

*Proposed: David Butcher*

*Seconded: Goldie Sogan*

*Carried*

## **7. Re-appointment of Richard Place Dobson as gdb Treasurer for 2017/2018**

The chairman thanked Richard Place Dobson for acting as gdb's Treasurer and confirmed they were prepared to continue for the forth-coming year.

*Proposed: David Montgomery*

*Seconded: Brett North*

*Carried*

Before electing the two new Directors there was a presentation to John Peel who was retiring from gdb as Director after 31 years of membership and involvement as Executive Council Member, Chairman and Director. To recognise John's contribution the Council had offered to make John a Life-Member and the title of Patron.

## **8. To elect David Montgomery as a Director**

After a year as a Director to fill a Casual Vacancy, David Montgomery was proposed as a Director

*Proposed: Steve Pullen*

*Seconded: Debra Vice-Holt*

*Carried*

## **9. To elect Andrew Hookway as a Director**

Andrew Hookway was proposed as a Director

*Proposed: John Peel*

*Seconded: Lisa Downs Carried*

## **10. To elect the Executive Council 2017/2018**

Before the Executive Council were elected thanks were recorded to as retiring Members. Alison Addy, David Connell, Lisa Downs, John Jory and Dan Sibley have been serving as co-opted members of the Council for the past year and were also thanked

The Executive Council for 2016/17 are:

Georgina Angele, The Careers & Enterprise Company

Jack Bedell-Pearce, 4D Data Centres

Nick Broom, PVL

Lisa Downs, Rawlison Butler LLP

Brett North, Broadley Heighway

Simon Pringle, Red River Software

Debra Vice-Holt, Work & Learning Opportunities

**Chairman** – Anya Ledwith, ESHCon Ltd

**Director** - David Montgomery, Kingston Smith LLP

**Director** - Andrew Hookway, Extech Ltd

**Treasurer** – Matthew Tyson, Richard Place Dobson

*Proposed: Brett North*

*Seconded: Tom Crellin*

*Carried*

## **11. Any Other Business**

David Butcher added his personal thanks to John Peel for his work and dedication to the organisation and to the wider Gatwick Diamond region

The Chairman closed the Meeting, thanking the Chief Executive, the Directors, Treasurer and his fellow Executive Council Members at 12.14

Signed:

Dated: